

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026728

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ORIGIN CU-04

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OPR/LS:CMUROMCEW (INFO)

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R 081958Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: IV MEHMED-KAJA

REF: GILMORE-JOHNSON LETTER OF FEBRUARY 1

1. AS INDICATED IN ATTACHED MEMOS TO REF LETTER, YUGOSLAV EMBASSY RAISED QUESTION OF SUITABILITY OF ESCORT-INTERPRETER ANZULOVIC FOR YUGOSLAV GRANTEES DURING FIRST WEEK KAJA'S VISIT. HOWEVER, SINCE DEPARTMENT WAS UNABLE FIND REPLACEMENT AND SINCE KAJA HIMSELF SEEMED HAVE ONLY SMALL OBJECTION TO ANZULOVIC, NO CHANGE WAS MADE.

2. ON FEBRUARY 7, YUGOEMBASSY COUNSELOR PETKOVIC CALLED DEPARTMENT TO INFORM THAT CABLE FROM BELGRADE JUST RECEIVED STATING THAT IF ANZULOVIC WERE NOT REPLACED, KAJA WOULD HAVE TO RETURN HOME. AS ANOTHER ESCORT-INTERPRETER IS NOW AVAILABLE (MRS. URSULA BOVE), DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED PETKOVIC SHE WILL REPLACE ANZULOVIC ON THIS ASSIGNMENT AS SOON AS ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS CAN BE WORKED OUT, PROBABLY EARLY NEXT WEEK.

3. WHILE WE ARE NOT AT ALL HAPPY AT YUGOEMB TACTICS,
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PAGE 02 STATE 026728

ESPECIALLY SINCE GRANTEE HIMSELF HAS NOT PRESSED MATTER WE

BELIEVE THAT WE MUST GIVE WAY IN THIS INSTANCE. TO INSIST
ON ANZULOVIC REMAINING ON CASE WOULD PLACE BOTH HIM AND
GRANTEE IN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION. ONCE KAJA HAS DEPARTED, WE

INTEND TO POINT OUT TO YUGO EMBOFFS OUR RECOGNITION THEIR
HEAVY-HANDED TACTICS AND SEEK SOME SOLUTION TO THIS
CHRONIC PROBLEM. KISSINGER

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